LOOPSTRA NIXON LLP

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May 13, 2013

By E-Mail

Commissioner of Finance and City Treasurer City of Vaughan City Hall 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive Vaughan, ON L4A 1T1

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Item #	1		-
Report No.	7 ((FQA)	_
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Council -	May	114/13	_

Attention: Ms. Barbara Cribbett

Dear Ms. Cribbet:

VMC Jane/7 Storm Water Management and Black Creek Flood and Erosion Re: Improvement Works Special area Development Charge Deferral

I am the solicitor for 785345 Ontario Limited and I & M Pandolfo Holdings with respect to the above referenced matter. My clients are the owners of approximately 4.717 hectares of land located at the southeast corner of Jane Street and Doughton Road in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre ("Subject Lands"); the Subject Lands are municipally known as 7551 and 7601 Jane Street, in the City of Vaughan.

We are writing to request that Vaughan Council defer the above noted Special Area Charge (SAC) at the May 14, 2013 Council meeting to allow further discussion between senior staff and the VMC landowners.

As discussed with City staff, the basis of this request includes but is not limited to:

General Reasons

- 1) Benefit to Existing (BTE) has not been recognized for the related works;
- 2) The Stormwater Management and Floodplain Improvement construction and land acquisition costs have not been finalized through the associated Black Creek Channel

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Class EA process and therefore implementation of an associated SAC is premature prior to completion of the Class EA;

- 3) Allocation of costs to York Region (or any other available sources of public funding) have not been considered related to undersized existing infrastructure and benefits of reduced flooding;
- 4) Benefits to City Wide growth areas require further discussion; and
- 5) The allocation of costs to solve existing environmental problems in already developed areas needs to be addressed.

Reasons Specific to 7551 and 7601 Jane Street

6) It is my understanding that City Council will consider a proposal to allocate the development charges ("Black Creek DC Charges") attributable to the Black Creek stormwater optimization works ("Stormwater Optimization Works"), either in whole or in part, through special area charges ("SACs"). I also understand that said proposal contemplates that portions of the Black Creek DC Charges which are to be allocated through SACs will be assessed based on a formula related to the relative benefit resulting from the Stormwater Optimization Works; the benefit being an increase in the developable area resulting from the removal of the floodplain on the assessed property. As you can see from the attached Appendix "1" – Table 10 (Updated May 6, 2013), the total Sub-Area Benefitting from Stormwater Management Works for Sub-Area 3, is 4.29 ha. (see Appendix "1" attached);

Should City Council approve a proposal to allocate the Black Creek DC Charges through SACs, my clients will object to the application of said charges to the Subject Lands on the basis that my clients have demonstrated that there are engineering solutions which can resolve the Black Creek Regional Storm floodplain issues such that the Stormwater Optimization Works do not create any significant additional developable area on the Subject Lands and therefore provide negligible direct benefit to my clients. My clients can provide the technical engineering analysis that supports this, at your request. This is an extremely important issue for my clients who own significant lands within the floodplain. This issue could detrimentally affect the developability of my clients' lands;

7) My clients are of the opinion that the Stormwater Optimization Works provide a Citywide benefit and should therefore be recovered through growth occurring on a city-wide basis. Moreover, the allocation of the Black Creek DC Charges through SACs will result in an undue financial burden imposed on development in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre ("VMC"). The City should be implementing incentives rather than barriers to development in the VMC. The VMC is one of the most important Urban Growth Nodes in the Province and we encourage the City of Vaughan to adopt policies in the Vaughan Development Charges By-law that promote and facilitate development in this area. My clients therefore urge the City of Vaughan to add the Black Creek DC Charges in their entirety to the list of City-Wide Charges outlined in the background study and correspondingly object to the allocation of said charges through SACs;



- 8) In the alternative, if the City does not add the charge to the list of City wide charges, my clients urge you to make the area much larger than currently proposed. The Black Creek drainage area upstream of the site is over 700 ha. The VMC will be an important economic centre for Vaughan, bringing significant direct tax assessment revenue and significant spinoff economic activity which will benefit the whole municipality. To the extent that the Black Creek Works increase the developability and therefore the density of the VMC, the whole of Vaughan benefits. If the whole of Vaughan benefits, then the cost of the work should be shared by a much larger area than presently proposed; and
- 9) My clients request that the cost of reconstruction of both of their driveway entrances (necessitated by the Black Creek Works) be included in the DC By-law as part of the DC charges for this work.

We request that regular working sessions be arranged weekly or bi-weekly between the City and the VMC landowners to rectify and resolve all related issues and to expedite an amicable solution.

We believe that the Black Creek Optimization Study and associated stormwater management works have been in discussions for a considerable period of time. It is appropriate and reasonable that an area of such high importance be given the proper attention, so that costs can be appropriately allocated and a final resolution between all parties can be achieved in a timely and equitable manner.

We appreciate your consideration and support of this request to defer the Special Area Charge to resolve the outstanding issues. Please note that we will be making further submissions as this matter progresses.

Yours truly,

LOOPSTRAXIXON LLP Per: Quinto M. Annibale

QMA rs

- cc Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua
- cc Deputy Mayor and Regional Councillor Gino Rosati
- cc Regional Councillor Michael Di Biase
- cc Regional Councillor Deb Schulte
- cc Ward 1 Councillor Marilyn lafrate
- cc Ward 2 Councillor Tony Carella
- cc Ward 3 Councillor Rosanna DeFrancesca
- cc Ward 4 Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco
- cc Ward 5 Councillor Alan Shefman
- cc Mr. Paul Jankowski, Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works



- Mr. John Mackenzie, Commissioner of Planning cc
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- Mr. Jeffrey Abrams, City Clerk Mr. Andrew Pearce, Director Development and Transportation Engineering Mr. Lloyd Noronha, Director Development Finance and Investments cc
- cc



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